THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Indian Railways have drawn up a draft Corporate Plan for the period 1985-2000, which is under finalization. Details of development plans would be available after the Corporate Plan has been finalized.

Delux buses under D.T.C.

2486. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no difference in Delux and ordinary buses operating under DTC as far as facilities to passengers are concerned;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the condition of Delux buses plying under the DTC is very bad;

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve it and give more facilities to passengers of Delux buses as compared with the ordinary buses in Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that fare of Delux buses are more than ordinary buses inspite of the fact the number of stoppages are same and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The Delux buses have cushioned seats and provide a more comfortable journey than the ordinary buses. Such buses are periodically screened by a board consisting of DTC officers. The buses found not upto the mark are converted into ordinary buses. In case of some minor deficiency, show cause notice is issued to the owner of bus for rectifying the defect/defects noticed in the bus within a given time frame.

(d) The fare of Delux buses is at a flat rate of Rs. 2/- per ticket as against Rs. 0.50 to Rs. 1.50 in ordinary buses. The number of stoppages of the Delux buses are the same as of ordinary buses to provide additional facility to commuters who can pay a little extra.

Introduction of English in the primary schools

2487. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce English as the medium of instructions in Government aided primary schools run by Corporations and Panchayats to enable the poorest of the poor to have the basic knowledge of the language in order that they at least are able to complete with children of other English medium schools; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages teaching of languages at secondary level to be in accordance with the three language formula. At primary stage the policy of government of India has been that teaching should be in the medium of mother tongue and at this level mostly one language should be prescribed for teaching which is generally the regional language.

Setting up Teachers' Training Institutes

2488. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up centrally aided Teachers' Training Institutes in each district in the country so that adequate number of teachers are available for schools in remotest areas; if so, what are the details thereof; and